

BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF CURRENT SOCIAL THOUGHT AND EFFORT

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Volume IX

The National
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THE CHARITIES REVIEW

Volume IX

MAY, 1899

Number 3

The National Conference. Announcements giving detailed information regarding the Cincinnati conference, May 17-23, with a synopsis of the program, have already been sent out. Further information can be had of Mr. H. H. Hart, 115 Monroe street, Chicago. From what has been announced of subjects and speakers, the sessions will be helpful and abreast of the pressing problems of the hour. An interesting addition to the program will be the address of Mayor S. M. Jones, of Toledo, who is coming to be considered one of the factors of future social reform movements. The national conference of settlement workers has been arranged to directly precede the conference, beginning in Chicago, Monday, May 15. Thus the opportunity is afforded, and will be taken by many social workers, to attend both meetings, the interests of which are so nearly parallel.

Canadian Conference. The second Canadian conference of charities and correction will be held in the normal school building at Toronto, June 1 and 2. Every effort will be made to insure the success of the gathering.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS. Representatives of the various public institutions of Boston hold a conference quarterly for reports of work done and discussion of plans of co-operation. An interesting illustration of the value of such a conference is found in the meeting of March 29:

A trustee of the pauper institutions reported that during the last quarter, the population had risen to its maximum height, but had suddenly fallen on the previous Monday, when 170 people left Long island. The same movement is experienced each year at that institution, being the natural spring exodus. By questioning the overseers of the poor, in charge of outdoor relief, and the penal institutions' representative, an effort was made to find out what becomes of the people who had left the almshouse. It was found that there had been no increase at the penal institutions, but, on the contrary, a decrease of population; the wayfarers' lodge, however, in charge of the overseers of the poor, showed an increase. The practical outcome of the conference will probably be that the names of those leaving Long island will regularly be sent to the overseers of the poor for comparison.

Among other interesting facts brought out at this conference was

the statement that in some cases men are applying for aid who are well able to work, a striking instance being that of a tin-worker who, if outside the institution, could earn from \$3 to \$4 a day. Is it possible that the institutions of the city are too attractive, that they should be preferred by able-bodied men to outside employment?

The house of reformation of the children's department, at Rainsford island, was reported as changing in appearance to resemble a military school rather than a prison. Better discipline and mutual interest and sympathy between officers and boys are noted. The children's department also reported that the closing of the Marcella street home and the placing or boarding out of the children formerly kept there (see the REVIEW for February and March) has not produced any inconvenience with regard to the disposition of children. They are able to place them promptly on their coming into the department.

An experience with a defective kerosene lamp at the house of reformation, while fortunately not resulting seriously, has led to the placing of fire escapes on the building, the increasing of the water pressure, a proposal to substitute electric lights in place of kerosene, and, most important of all, the removal of a number of the younger boys who, owing to overcrowded conditions, were stowed away in the fourth-story attic, to another building. How many more institutions are there in the country inviting by similar conditions tragedies such as have already been twice enacted in South Dakota, and which Boston only barely escaped?

Free Dental Service.

The city council of Würzburg, in Bavaria, has passed a resolution which provides that, the parents consenting, poor pupils in the public schools

are to be accorded free examination and treatment of the teeth. If this innovation proves successful, it is the intention to offer on the same terms treatment of the ear and the throat.

A corresponding movement has been taken up through the Chicago bureau of associated charities. Twelve skilled dentists give each one hour a week toward preserving the teeth of needy people, and especially neglected children. The service is given only to those who are known by the bureau to be unable to pay regular rates. A charge of ten cents for each filling will be made, except where even that is impossible. It is noteworthy that the work will be done by expert dentists rather than by students and novices working for practice. It is stated that much of the sickness noted among poor school children is due to defective teeth.

Public School Baths.

The Chicago board of education has adopted experimentally the policy of furnishing bathing facilities in one or two of its schools. Some of the children are so unclean that they can not be allowed at school. As there are no facilities whatever at home for bathing, such children are left to run the streets, which generally means a future heavy expense to the state for the care of vagabonds or criminals. Shower baths are so easily and inexpensively constructed that there is little reason why they should not be provided in schools in those cities where there are no adequate public baths.

A Tale of a Tub.

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Buffalo Outdoor Relief.

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A Tale of
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Apropos of this subject, the following experience of a Brooklyn teacher has been reported, regarding a little Italian girl who had been sent home with the order to have her mother "wash her until she was clean."

The child returned shortly afterward, accompanied by its enraged mother, who said some things not really polite to the teacher, finishing with, "She is washed now, anyway."

The only visible evidence of a bath was a clean spot around the little one's mouth and nose. The teacher told the mother that she had meant that the child should be thoroughly bathed. "She should be put into a tub and washed," she explained.

"What! in a tub?" the woman exclaimed, "Why, that would kill her! And, besides, she's sewed up for the winter."

The crowded condition of the potter's field in Boston has led to a suggestion by the mayor looking toward a municipal crematorium, to dispose of the bodies of all who are buried at public expense. The city now buries about five hundred annually, and this number is increasing. At the present rate the potter's field will be filled before the close of the present year. For sanitary reasons as well as for reasons of economy the municipal crematorium is advisable. New York, with ten per cent of all its dead going to the potter's field, might well consider similar action.

Notwithstanding the vigorous efforts of the charity organization society of Buffalo, supported by a very general

public sentiment, to have public outdoor relief either abolished or reduced from thirty to six cents per capita, the officials who had the matter in charge refused to reduce the expenditure below twenty-two cents, which rate they have adopted. The society will make an equally strong effort next year for still further reduction.

A National
Federation of
Churches.

The federation of churches in New York city has joined with the open and institutional church league in taking steps toward a national federation. This will result in work in other cities similar to that now being done in New York, which has been of great value to the sections of the city in which the federation has worked. We welcome the advent of organized church effort in the social field.

Glymont
Industrial
Colony.

An industrial colony is a new undertaking that promises to be in full operation for the poor of the District of Columbia before the passing of another month. A tract of land of over one thousand acres, including hill, valley, woodland, pasturage, and agricultural land, has been purchased for the purpose of the establishment of such a colony. The location is on the Maryland side of the Potomac, twenty miles from Washington, and adjoining the government proving-grounds at Indian Head.

The idea of its promoters is to furnish place and opportunity for the creation of homes, and the doing

Buffalo
Outdoor
Relief.

of useful and remunerative work by those who have been pushed to the wall in the city. The land will be divided into small tracts, and allotted to deserving men with families for cultivation. Cheap houses will be erected, fuel supplied, ground prepared for cultivation, and, perhaps, other assistance given in getting families established in their new homes. It is expected that the needs of Fort Washington above and Indian Head below the colony will create demand for produce of all sorts, and that the colony can eventually be made wholly self-sustaining. The control of the disposal of crops will be retained by the colony management, and accurate accounts will be kept with each colonist. Allotments of land will be given under long lease without rent, and it is expected that many small tracts will eventually become the property of lessees.

Aside from the cultivation of the soil, other methods of earning a livelihood will be introduced. Excellent brick clay is abundant on the colony property, and offers an opportunity for the manufacture of a building material much in demand. The sort of wood used in basket-making is plentiful, and this will furnish employment for some who are unable to engage in the more serious occupations. Lumber for buildings will also be cut and manufactured on the tract. Boxes, buckets, tubs, and barrels are spoken of as probable lines of manufacture. A valuable wharfage business is already estab-

lished, many river steamers calling every day, and the supplies for a large section of country being advantageously handled. There are eight residences, two stores, and a post office already on the property, and it is the intention of the promoters to create a summer resort which will be free from all objectionable elements and otherwise suited to the requirements of Sunday-schools, young people's societies, and churches. All excursions will be carried on a swift and safe vessel recently purchased for the use of the colony. This steamer, having proprietary rights, will practically control the freight business done at the colony wharf, and will undoubtedly be a profitable feature.

The completed plan calls also for the establishment of a home or asylum for inebriates entirely out of the reach of temptation, where this class of persons will be given such physical and moral treatment as will tend to their cure and at the same time afford them healthful occupation and an opportunity for well doing.

Twelve single men and six families have taken up residence at the new colony, and present indications are that it will make a successful beginning and prove an exceedingly interesting experiment. The financial management of the colony rests in a private corporation, only a part of whose membership has been made public. These incorporators will furnish the required capital, and will give administrative service without compensation.

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Prisoners' Aid.

Another new movement in Washington is the organization and incorporation of a prisoners' aid society. Probably in no city is there a fairer field or greater need for the efforts of such an organization, for there are at this moment no less than 100 boys under twenty years of age in the jail and workhouse. Investigation was recently made of the homes of ten boys, under sixteen years of age, found in the workhouse. Three homes were fair, one was good, and six were bad. One mother had company and declined to admit the investigator or to talk about her boy; a bottle of gin on the table told an eloquent story. The only care-taker of another is a single sister who is herself just finishing a three months' sentence. The step-father of one is a blind beggar, who declared his purpose to "knock his brains out" if the boy ever came back to the home of his mother. Only two of the ten boys can read. Three of them are in prison for the first time, two for the second time, three for the third and fourth times, and two for the sixth and tenth times. On the morning of April 10 there were four children under fifteen years of age among a large number of police-court cases. Two of these children were held to await the action of the grand jury, and were sent to jail in default of bail. One was sent to the workhouse and one to the reform school.

The intendant of the Washington asylum, of which the workhouse is a part, recently addressed a communication to the commissioners of the

district, strongly condemning the practice of sending such numbers of children to that institution. His letter was referred to the superintendent of charities, by whom the probably evil results of such treatment of children was emphasized, and a way by which it can be avoided under existing laws pointed out. The matter was then referred to the judge of the police court, who replied that "there are a large number, requiring and demanding punishment, unable to pay their fines, and who must, therefore, be sent to the workhouse." The objects of the new prisoners' aid society include the prevention of the sentencing of children to the jail or workhouse, the investigation of the home conditions surrounding such as are charged with offences against the laws of the district, and the securing of the application of the proper remedy.

Herbert W. Lewis.

Probation in Boston Courts.

The probation system of the criminal courts of Boston, which has now been in operation for eight years, is attracting wide attention. It has recently been investigated by New York judges and social workers, with a view to its introduction here. A number of foreign governments have made a study of the plan. In an interview reported in the *Baltimore News*, Probation officer Keefe, who originated the system, describes its operation:

The duties of the probation officers are to inquire into the na-

ture of all cases coming before the criminal courts, to report to the judge the result of their investigation when the offender is called for trial, to help the court by an unbiased statement of facts in the disposition of the case, and to recommend probation for persons who, in their judgment, are sincere in their desire for reform. When the offenders are placed on probation, they are told what is expected of them; they are visited as often as is practicable, and if any violation of the terms imposed comes to the officer's knowledge, they are surrendered and sentenced at the discretion of the court which placed them on probation. The continuation of the different cases varies from five weeks to a year, the judge continuing the cases to such time as will be most beneficial to the individual, while friends and relatives recognizing the benefits of probation, often ask for a still further continuance at the time when the case would be naturally dismissed.

In cases of non-support, where an agreement has been made with the court to pay certain sums in weekly payments to the wife, the probation officers are called upon to act as mediators, receiving and paying over to the wife such sums as the court shall designate, and to see that the agreement is faithfully complied with.

Every morning the city prison is visited by the probation officer and his five men and two women assistants. The officers take the names of the persons arrested for drunkenness, look up the record, and investigate the statements of persons arrested and prepare for the judge a list of previous arrests.

Last year, while there were 1091 persons discharged and 1258 cases favorably disposed of in the Boston courts, there were only 209 sur-

rendered for sentence and only 258 defaulted. Forty-eight were sent to country homes and 119 to charity homes. The total number of criminal cases inquired into during the year was 3,518, and 371 prison release cases were investigated. The officers investigated 16,628 "drunk" cases, reported by the police, and of these all the charges but 2,368 were found to be probably true. Besides all this work, 9,640 special investigations were made for the court. The result is a perceptible decrease in crime and a marked improvement in the morality and sobriety of the community.

Another thing now done is the securing of situations for those on probation and for those discharged from confinement. This not only makes them self-supporting, but removes them from the necessity of resorting again to crime for a livelihood.

Model Tenements.

Mr. Ogden Mills, the son of Mr. D. O. Mills, of "Mills' house" fame, together with Mr. Ernest Flagg, the architect of the Mills' houses, is to erect a group of fireproof model tenements in New York. The structures will be built on the square plan, with extensive courtyards in the center. Thus abundant light and air will be furnished every room. The buildings, eleven in number and six stories in height, will be capable of accommodating 450 families. The rental is to average \$1 a room per week, and the income from the investment will be not less than three per cent. It is worth noting that nothing is said in this plan about philanthropic motives, and no appeals are necessary to secure the funds. The

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investors are interested in seeing the poor well housed, but their investment is not for charity. When we stop urging the charitable features of a number of things, in which philanthropic people may be interested, and present them as business propositions, the chances of social progress will be increased. Philanthropy is a strong motive force, but the prospect of sound business investment is stronger. And, indeed, there is no philanthropy more commendable than that which adequately meets for a fair compensation a recognized need of the community, whether that need be of sanatory homes, of pure foods, or of transportation facilities. The community, that is, the masses, is able to pay the man who does it a needed service.

A Church Store.

Calvary protestant episcopal church, of New York, has followed the plan of the rector's former parish, St. Peter's, Philadelphia, by starting a store for the sale of common dry goods, etc., on the instalment plan. The store is not intended to compete with the prices of ordinary dry-goods stores, but will probably affect more seriously the business of instalment dealers, which is highly desirable, as the instalment business in New York, as elsewhere, is a seriously wasteful institution. Still the *Dry Goods Economist* considers the enterprise an interference with legitimate business. Its protest is, of course, a matter of principle, as the actual business of the store would probably not exceed \$500 a year.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION.

Suspend Judgment.

A few weeks ago there appeared in a daily paper of one of our large cities a leading article concerning the experience of an Italian family with organized charity. Neither the editor nor the reporter appears to have been influenced by a desire to injure the agency concerned. The story included, however, the following definite statements:

February 20. Family applied at 11 — street to have children placed in asylum. No food or relief given.

March 11. Case reported to "society of organized charities," but no food given to children.

March 13. Mrs. V—, the wife, called at headquarters of "society of organized charities" and was told agent would visit family. No food.

March 16. Miss J—, of "society of organized charities," visited family in cellar, but sent no relief. Children starving. V— too ill to work.

Other statements, with dates, were given, referring to other agencies, and on the following day another article on the subject appeared, with a list of charitable agencies and their receipts, and beginning with the statement that the average amount received each year by the "society of organized charities" is \$500,000, and ending, "organized non-municipal charities not mentioned above. Contributed by societies and individuals, \$5,280,000." Several columns of supplementary details were published, including photographs of three members of the family.

Till the Facts
are Known.

When the reporter interviewed an officer of the charity organization society on the following day he learned that the family had not applied for assistance at 11 — street (a district office of the charity organization society) in February as had been stated. The family was visited on March 11, that is, on the afternoon of the same day on which it had been reported to the society by the city department of charities. The family had both food and fuel at that time and were not in need of material relief, asking only for the commitment of their children. It was, however, discovered that the rooms were in an unsanitary condition, and on March 13 the applicant, on calling at the office, was told to hunt up other rooms, to which his family would be removed. No call was made at the headquarters of the society on that date. As the man appeared to be suffering from a severe cold or from lung trouble, he was sent to a physician, who pronounced the case one of tuberculosis, and advised him to call regularly for treatment at the dispensary where the physician attended. No call was made on March 16. On March 17 it was decided by the committee of the society that the entire family should be returned to Italy, where they have two children and where the climate would be more favorable to the man's recovery; and steps were taken to secure \$70, the amount needed for their passage. This money was obtained, but on the day before the sailing of

the steamer the family absolutely refused to leave the country. They had been removed to satisfactory rooms and a month's rent was paid for them by a local relief society.

The charity organization society, which figures in the list as the "society of organized charities," receives annually less than one-tenth of the amount stated, and this comes entirely from private sources. It was said further that the offices of the charity organization society closed on Sunday, whereas, in fact, the night office is open until midnight, on both Sundays and holidays, and applicants during the day, who are without shelter, are informed by the janitor of the building that application may be made after 6 P. M. It was also said that the man, who, as has been stated, was suffering from lung trouble, was offered a wood-yard ticket and told to go to work, a statement for which there was no foundation whatever.

The astounding series of blunders upon which a newspaper man may thus stumble in connection with a single case where he does not secure accurate information, but trusts to police court clerks, shrewd journalistic guesses, and his own imagination, may throw some light upon the considerable amount of misinformed criticism which organized charities encounter. The paper which had published the original article somewhat grudgingly gave space to an interview containing a part of these corrections, and a week or ten days later, possibly as a further compensation, requested the

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privilege of sending a reporter to accompany a visitor of the society on her rounds, and published (without names) an appreciative account of the experiences which were the result.

A committee of the charity organization society of Baltimore appointed to recommend changes in the city's methods of dealing with beggars and vagrants advises that a clearer distinction be made between the functions of the almshouse and the house of correction, the former of which is used partly for correctional purposes. The committee recommends further the establishment of a workshop for cripples, to remove this class from the streets, and, finally, the adoption of an indeterminate sentence law in dealing with prisoners at the house of correction.

Another special committee reports that the condition of cheap lodging-houses in Baltimore needs improvement, and attention is called to the regulations in Boston and Buffalo, by which such houses are licensed and regularly inspected.

The Brooklyn bureau of charities is about to secure a new headquarters for its work in the eastern district of the borough. The amount necessary for the purchase of the desired property, \$15,000, has nearly all been raised.

During the past year the deposits of the New York penny provident fund amounted to \$75,816.54, and the withdrawals to \$73,632.14. This

means that people through this agency are yearly saving \$75,000 which would not otherwise be saved. The money does not remain with the fund. It goes into savings banks, and is withdrawn for fuel, clothing, rent, illness, holidays, and special purposes. It costs, above earnings, \$800 a year to administer the fund.

Plans for the training class in practical philanthropic work to be conducted by the charity organization society of New York, June 19 to July 29, are making active progress. To supervise the course, and to enlarge its scope, the central council of the society has appointed a special standing committee, including Messrs. Robert W. de Forest, Richmond Mayo-Smith, S. F. Hallock and E. R. L. Gould, of New York; Prof. S. M. Lindsay, of Philadelphia; Mr. Jeffrey R. Brackett, of Baltimore; and Mrs. Glendower Evans, of Boston.

The work this year will be similar in some respects to that of last year. Two classes of persons will be received, graduate students from universities and colleges who desire to gain a practical view of social conditions, and workers in the field of philanthropy who seek a wider knowledge of the methods that have been applied in improving the social situation.

The program of addresses by specialists and visits to institutions includes a number of attractive items. The first week, devoted to private charities, will include addresses on

the principles of charity organization by Mr. E. T. Devine, of New York, Miss Z. D. Smith, of Boston, and Miss M. E. Richmond, of Baltimore. The second week will consider child-saving work, beginning with an address by Mr. Brackett. Mr. Homer Folks and Mrs. Glendower Evans will speak on this subject. The third week will be given to the subject of public charities, the state board, and the city department, with visits to the hospitals, almshouse, and penal institutions on Blackwell's island, and to the children's institutions on Randall's island. During the fourth week medical charities will receive attention. Visits will be made to some of the typical hospitals and dispensaries, the health department, and some of the fresh air charities. The fifth week will consider municipal activities affecting the poor, with addresses by Dr. Gould, Dr. William H. Tolman, and other specialists. For the sixth week the subject will be prison reform, with visits to the police courts, police stations, and other penal institutions, with a summary of the work and an address by Professor Lindsay upon the characteristics of the social debtor classes. Mr. Jacob A. Riis is among those who have promised to meet the class. Visits will be made to several of the social settlements. A limited number of those who take the course can find board in the settlements, thus securing special opportunities for study.

Further details regarding the class have already been published in the REVIEW for March.

Philip W. Ayres.

STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

Colorado. The state board of charities and correction has under consideration the subject of new buildings and the selection of permanent locations for several state institutions. It proposes to build on the cottage plan for the industrial school for girls and the state home for dependent children. The newer states have the great advantage of being able to plan their charitable institutions in the light of the experience of the older communities, and for this reason are frequently able to make the better showing.

Indiana. A somewhat remarkable enactment, apparently in the wrong direction, and likely to be productive of unfortunate results, is found among the measures of the Indiana legislature. This is the act to provide for compensation of the boards of trustees of eight of the state's charitable institutions, which became a law March 6, 1899, "without the governor's signature." By this law each of the trustees is to receive as compensation, beginning January 1, 1899, the sum of \$300 per annum, with traveling expenses not to exceed \$100 in any one year.

New York. The annual election of officers of the state board of charities resulted in the reelection of William R. Stewart, of New York, as president. The secretary has been directed to certify to the board of supervisors of Erie county that in the opinion of a majority of the board a change of almshouse site was necessary to the proper care of the inmates of the Erie county almshouse. Mr. Byron M. Child, who is

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in charge of the bureau of charitable institutions of the state comptroller's office, has been appointed to the position of superintendent of state and alien poor formerly occupied by the late Dr. Charles S. Hoyt. Mr. Child has had much experience in charitable work which should prove valuable to the state board of charities. The governor has selected Mr. William Church Osborn, of Garri- sons, Putnam county, to fill the vacancy in the state lunacy commis- sion caused by the expiration of the term of Mr. Goodwin Brown. The new appointee was a member of the last constitutional convention, and has already had considerable experi- ence in charitable work.

Ohio.

The reports in the Ohio bulletin of the board of state charities for the quarter ended December 31, 1898, give evidence of commendable activity on the part of the board, and the boards of county visitors in visiting and inspecting the Ohio charitable and correctional institutions, which, as a rule, seem to have been found in a satisfactory condition, although many practical suggestions for changes and improve- ments are made. The bulletin con- tains a cordial and urgent invitation to attend the national conference of charities and correction at Cincin- nati, May 17-23, and says: "Last year 1,000 delegates attended the New York meeting. At Cincinnati no less number will do—Ohio ought to furnish at least half."

South Dakota.

The biennial report of the board of charities and cor- rections for 1897 and 1898, in speak-

ing of the destruction by fire of the South Dakota reform school, says: "On the night of October 5, 1897, the girls' dormitory, a spacious wooden structure erected in 1893, at a cost with its furnishings of about \$15,000, was burned to the ground, and the lives of one teacher and six pupils fell a prey to the flames. The origin of the fire is not known, and all explanations concern- ing it are hypothetical; but it is safe to assume that the building was an insecure structure for the purpose for which it was designed and used.

. . . This lamentable occurrence has emphasized the necessity for fireproof structures in all cases where state buildings are used for the purpose of confining or accommodating human beings. Acting upon this warning, thus conveyed, the board of charities and correction has decided to recommend for such uses the erection of fireproof buildings only, believing such recommendation justified by the soundest economy and abundantly warranted by every humane principle." Strange as it may appear, the report goes on to state that, owing to the fact that the statutes of the state prohibit the board from contracting any debt for which an appropriation has not previously been made, it was power- less to provide even temporary quarters for the homeless girls of the school, and would thus have been in a sad predicament had not the citizens of Plankinton, where the school was located, provided at their own expense a temporary structure for the use of the school,

and later aided in advancing money for a permanent building.

In many other states the authorities would be similarly hampered in the case of a like destruction of their state institutions, and this naturally gives rise to the question as to whether every state which acts as its own insurer should not annually set apart an amount sufficient to meet such emergencies, providing, of course, reasonable safeguards over the expenditure of the money.

On the 26th of January **Massachusetts.** Mrs. Anne B. Richardson, of Lowell, died. She had been a member of the state board of charity since April, 1886; and prior to that time was for several years a member of the board of trustees of the state primary and reform schools. At the meeting of the board immediately succeeding her death the following draft of minutes was presented by Mr. Donnelly, and unanimously adopted:

The announcement of the death of our late associate member, Mrs. Anne B. Richardson, recalls to us her unselfish devotion to the public charities of the state; her fitness for the duties of her office, and her continuous labors, extending over many years, in private charitable work, especially that concerning the welfare of children, regarding reformatory training, and the destitute and neglected. She possessed for the discharge of her official duties a high degree of intelligence, broad and expansive views, and sincere sympathy for the poor and suffering. Those associated with Mrs. Richardson in her long membership of the board learned to regard her highly for her clearness of judgment, her

earnestness in her duties, her frankness of disposition, and the tolerant spirit she always exhibited toward all who had official relations with her.

Therefore the members of the board inscribe these brief minutes on their records as a memorial of her public labors, in testimony of her womanly worth and the high esteem in which she was held by them. And the clerk of the board is instructed to communicate to the family of Mrs. Richardson a copy of these minutes and of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the members of the state board of charity have heard with unfeigned sorrow of the death of their late associate member, Mrs. Anne B. Richardson, and tender to her family their deepest sympathy in the bereavement they have suffered by the loss of one endeared to them by all the ties of affection, and held in the highest esteem of all who were associated with her in the discharge of their common duties as almoners of the charities of our commonwealth.

The governor has appointed, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mrs. Richardson, Miss Annette P. Rogers, of Boston, a lady who has long been engaged in public and private charitable work, and who also holds the position of overseer of the poor of the city of Boston.

**Pennsylvania
Charity
Appropriations.**

There is a good deal of dissatisfaction in many quarters of Pennsylvania over meager appropriations, and failures to appropriate at all, in charities and corrections. Just how much of this is due to the senatorial legislative blockade is not yet clear,

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as the indications early in the session were that charities would be cut closely. So far as the appropriations in question were for private charities, the withdrawal of government support indicates a natural movement which must be expected to grow more pronounced with increased ability of the state to administer its charities for itself. But the shortage, we understand, affects also some state institutions. Whatever the merits of the question, it seems evident that the interests of one "boss" can command more attention from the representatives of the people of Pennsylvania than the welfare of its dependent classes. If cuts are to be made in appropriations they ought to be made after careful consideration in the legislative committees. But what can be expected of a legislature which exists to elect or defeat a senator? New York, with its Croker and Platt machines, manages at least to get through regular business, and to better the laws a little besides.

The state board of corrections and charities is making an effort to have the crippled dependent children of the state admitted to the state public school at Coldwater. There are said to be thirty or forty of these in the different poorhouses of the state growing up among adult paupers. The state school board prefers that some other disposition of them be made.

By enactment of the legislature, children of Nebraska under ten may not work in factories or stores, and those

under fourteen must not work unless they have attended day school at least twenty weeks of the year.

Personal. Dr. Lee K. Frankel, of Philadelphia, has accepted the management of the united Hebrew charities of New York, the position formerly held by Mr. N. S. Rosenau.

The successor of Dr. F. H. Wines as secretary of the Illinois state board of charities is Mr. John T. Peters, of Springfield.

Dr. Charles E. Woodbury, who has been intimately connected with work for the insane in Massachusetts and elsewhere, assumes charge of the hospital for inebriates of that state.

Warden O. V. Sage, of Sing Sing, has resigned in favor of a henchman, it is said, of ex-Governor Black. This gentleman, it seems, is still in control of the state prisons of New York, by virtue of political obligations to him of the present superintendent of state prisons, whom he appointed. These statements cover the newspaper version of the story. If true, they are a serious blow to the prestige of the "one-man" power which was so popular when the prisons of this state were placed under the executive control of a single official.

Mr. Charles W. Birtwell, secretary of the Boston children's aid society, is to go abroad for a few months' rest and recuperation.

In connection with the legal aid society in New York there has been established a ladies' auxiliary, to en-

Michigan
Crippled
Dependents.

Child Labor,
Nebraska.

Legal Aid
Auxiliary.

large the circle of interest in the society, and to aid it in work in behalf of women. The auxiliary has established an office uptown, in the united charities building, to which women may come for advice, and where ultimately one of the attorney's assistants may be in regular attendance.

THE EPILEPTIC.

Proportion of
Epileptics to
Population.

Dr. F. M. Powell, of Glenwood, Iowa, in a recent paper on "state care for epileptics," refers to the proportion of epileptics to the population at large, and has this to say on the subject:

Statistics... agree that there is one epileptic in every 500 or 600 of the population. This would make an aggregate of more than one hundred thousand in the United States. On the same basis of calculation there are about four thousand in Iowa. The board of managers of the New Jersey state village for epileptics report that there are more than two thousand epileptics in their state, with a population of 1,500,000, stating further that there is a strong probability that not more than one-half the actual cases would be included in any census, private or public, because of the natural unwillingness on the part of sufferers and their friends to acknowledge the existence of such a disease. Investigations in Ohio, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Illinois, California, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and other states corroborate the foregoing statistics. For the purpose of ascertaining a basis to compute the number in Iowa, correspondence was had in 1897 with 800 physicians representing every county in the state, and with the hospitals for the insane and county infirmaries, and from these

sources there was reported an actual knowledge of 2,997. From these investigations we conclude that the ratio of one epileptic to every 600 would be a conservative estimate.

Dr. Powell then states that a more recent correspondence shows that his estimate made in 1897 was not exaggerated. While the knowledge we have gained relative to the proportion of epileptics to the population at large is valuable, it must necessarily be inaccurate and misleading, partly for the reasons given by the managers of the New Jersey state village for epileptics, as quoted above, and partly for the reason that there has never been a concerted movement covering a sufficiently large area on which a reliable estimate may be made.

Statistics have come under my own observation that gave the proportion of epileptics to the population at large in the countries of Europe. I had an opportunity in January of the present year to talk with Dr. Bourneville, of the Bicêtre hospital, in Paris, on this matter, and asked him whether there had ever been, within his knowledge, a census made of the epileptics of France, or of the city of Paris. He stated that there had not, and that the only official figures relative to epileptics that had been made in France within his knowledge were those made by himself at the instance of the city government of Paris, covering the department of the Seine, and included only the epileptics at that time in public hospitals and other charitable institutions within that area.

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Figures regarding the insane are much more reliable, for the simple reason that the insane have been receiving public care for so long a time that it has served to bring to light most of the cases that exist. And this is becoming true of epilepsy, to a certain extent, since public care for this class has taken such firm root and is spreading so rapidly throughout the country. In Livingston county, New York, in which the Craig colony is located, we had official knowledge four years ago of two epileptics only. To-day we have official records of eleven cases, and I have no doubt that there are still many others in the county that will come to light later. The 1898 red book of the state gives the population of the county as 37,010.

On the whole we feel that, for obvious reasons, the chief one being the comparatively recent agitation of the subject of public care for epileptics, the time is not yet ripe for making a census of the epileptic population at large that will be even reasonably complete and accurate. At the same time we have abundant evidence that they do exist in such large numbers that all possible provision that can be made for them as public charges will be eagerly availed of as soon as provided.

In the same article Dr. **Heredity.** Powell presents some very interesting figures relative to epilepsy as an inherited disease, that in turn gives origin, primarily or remotely, to other diseases or conditions equally as disastrous. "Eccheverra," says Dr. Powell,

"after ten years' careful research in tracing the offspring of epileptics, states that 'Excluding all cases that could not be fully verified, it was found that sixty-two male and seventy-four female epileptics begot 553 children, whose life histories were as follows: Twenty-two still-born, 195 died in infancy from spasms, seventy-eight lived as epileptics, eighteen lived as idiots, thirty-nine lived as paralytics, forty-five lived as hysterical, six had chorea, eleven were insane, seven had strabismus, twenty-seven died young from other causes than nervous diseases, while 105 were healthy.'"

It is stated in the fourth annual report of the Craig colony, under "factors in heredity," that a history of epilepsy in the parents was ascertained in thirty-four out of 253 cases admitted. A general neuropathic history in the ancestry was ascertained in fifty out of 253 admitted. A history of tuberculosis in the ancestry was ascertained in thirty-four out of 253 cases admitted, while a history of alcoholism was ascertained in twenty-three out of the 253 cases admitted. It will thus be seen that nearly sixty per cent of the 253 cases had histories tainted with epilepsy, general nervous disorders, tuberculosis, or alcoholism, and the figures given by Eccheverra, taken in connection with those of the colony, both of which, indeed, may be verified without fear of serious contradiction wherever painstaking observers have labored to gain such information, should speak with force in favor of well directed measures

toward the prevention of epilepsy and its consequent disorders. Where a thing is so patent in its evil consequences as intermarriage among the defective classes, it would seem that society, for its own protection, might be sufficiently aroused to secure the enactment of laws demanded by ethical, financial, and moral reasons, and that the time is near at hand when something must be done to check the onward flow of the "muddy current," as ex-Governor Jackson, of Iowa, so characterized the increase in the defective classes. An apt illustration, by simile, of the manner in which disease is spread broadcast throughout the land was used by this governor in his message to the Iowa legislature in 1896:

A few years ago a Russian thistle was driven from the prairies of South Dakota by the northwest winds across the state line into Iowa. It rolled on and on for forty miles across one of our most productive counties, scattering along its trail millions of the seed of this weed which is so destructive and dangerous to agricultural interests. A vast amount of labor was required to destroy the havoc created by this one weed. Most surely in adopting measures of extermination, no intelligent people would be content to let the thistle roll on and on and to expend their energies in undoing damages. On the contrary, intelligent legislation would be in the direction of preventing the reproduction of this noxious weed.

Effects of
Epilepsy on
the Mind.

Another thing about the epileptic demands closer study than has been given it in the past, and that is the effect

of the disease on the mind. There is a wide diversity of opinion on this point. Personally I believe that the tap root of true epilepsy strikes to the very core of the mental life of the individual, and that few epileptics escape mental impairment in some degree, which fact justifies us in arguing against the full responsibility of any person suffering from epileptic seizures. I am unable to free my mind from the conviction that the ultimate safeguard that society must place about the majority of epileptics for its own protection as well as for the safe and humane care of the epileptic himself, will not be much less restrictive than that placed about the insane, bearing always in mind that one of the greatest benefits derived from the seclusion of such a class is the effectual check put upon the reproduction, too many times to be multiplied, of a defective and dependent people.

WILLIAM P. SPRATLING.

Hospital for
Consump-
tives.

The military reservation at Fort Stanton, New Mexico, has been transferred from the jurisdiction of the war department to that of the marine hospital service, and is to be used for the care of soldiers, sailors, and marines who are suffering from consumption. The service has been considering the establishment of such a sanitarium, and the Fort Stanton reservation was selected because of its climatic advantages. It is said that the management will be similar to that of the army and navy hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas.

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and there is an intimation that if it prove practicable, the advantages of the sanitarium will be extended gradually to civilian employés of the government.

The Parole in Indiana.

The figures which show the saving to the state by the operation of the parole law in Indiana are surprisingly large. The first man paroled by the new reformatory was sent out about two years ago. Of the 162 who were released provisionally during the succeeding eighteen months, thirty-nine received final discharge, twelve returned to the institution, one returned awaiting employment, eight proved delinquent, two died, eighty-nine were reporting at the close of this period, and the term of sentence expired in eleven cases before one year's parole. The paroled men were employed in twenty-six lines of work, more than half being farmers, laborers, and teamsters. The total wages earned during the eighteen months were \$20,158.38, or, adding computation for board (received by a number as additional to wages), about \$32,375. If these 162 men had passed their total parole period in the reformatory, the cost to the state would have been \$10,109.10. This, says the superintendent, Mr. Hert, has been entirely saved, and in addition the total of wages named above has been earned.

Applied as in the Indiana reformatory, the parole law has tended to lengthen the average time for which men are imprisoned. In an address before the Indiana conference of charities and correction, Mr. Hert

states that for six months ended October 1, 1896, a period prior to the enactment of the indeterminate sentence law, the average percentage of men released after serving one year was thirty-two; for the first corresponding six months under the indeterminate sentence law the average percentage was nineteen. The new law is not popular with the really criminal class. There is apparently plenty of evidence to show that the results thus far have tended to justify the existence of the law. The personal equation figures largely in its application, but, with reasonable assurance of care in the appointment of officials, that should increase rather than lessen the value of the system.

Social Studies for Nurses.

In the school for nurses of the Johns Hopkins hospital a series of talks on social conditions are being given to the thirty or forty nurses of the graduating class, with the idea of opening their eyes to conditions and possibilities of usefulness before them. The school has been fortunate in being able to secure a corps of lecturers whose wide experience guarantees the best possible treatment of the subjects discussed, among which are organized charity, relief work, the children of unfavorable environment, the home, the church, education, the municipality and the state, and present-day opportunities for social service. While the first year of these studies is being thus successfully undertaken, word comes from London that a similar idea has been

started there for the graduate nurses belonging to a certain organization. It might be worth while for the Baltimore school to have the lectures of this year recast and printed in pamphlet form for the use of other nurses less fortunate in their opportunities of hearing experienced speakers on social topics.

**Will of
Baroness
de Hirsch.**

The Baroness de Hirsch, who died in Paris, April 1, left about one hundred million dollars for charity. During the life of her husbands he co-operated with him in founding Hebrew educational institutions, agricultural stations, and colonies, and after his death in 1896 she continued and supplemented his efforts. In 1891 Baron and Baroness de Hirsch founded at Woodbine, N. J., a farm colony for Russian Jews, which, in eight years, has developed into a prosperous community. Among the gifts of the baroness during her life to improve the condition of Hebrews in the United States were: \$1,000,000 to the Baron de Hirsch fund; \$800,000 distributed among small charities; \$150,000 for the Baron de Hirsch fund school in New York city; the payment of a mortgage of \$100,000 upon the educational alliance in Jefferson street, New York city; the establishment of a home for working girls in New York city, and its endowment with \$100,000; the establishment of the Hirsch foundation. By her will, \$1,200,000 are left to the Hirsch foundation, \$2,000,000 to the Jewish colonization association in London,

\$600,000 to the board of guardians in London, \$120,000 to the Hirsch trust in Montreal, and \$95,280,000 to institutions in cities on the continent.

**Old-Age
Pensions.**

The charity organisation society of London published in March a brief stating its objections to the bill then before the house of commons providing for the granting by county councils of pensions in old age. A month earlier, at the twenty-seventh annual poor-law conference,¹ held in Guild hall, London, the subject of old-age pensions was discussed by guardians and others interested in poor-law administration, including Mr. T. W. Russell, M. P., parliamentary secretary to the local government board.

The present bill provides for pensions at the rate of £13 a year, on the following conditions: Pensioner to be sixty-five years of age, to have an income of not more than £40, to earn not more than five shillings a week, to be a member of a registered friendly society. Provision is also made for the continuance of a pension to the pensioner's widow. The expenditure is to be met, one-third from the county rate, two-thirds from the exchequer.

The objections urged by the London society to this scheme are: (1) So far as registered friendly societies are concerned the provision is unnecessary. Very few members of these societies come upon the rates. It is undesirable to force relief upon those who maintain themselves independently. (2) Practically the present aged poor would be outside the pro-

¹For report, see bibliography for March.

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visions of the bill. The female aged poor, on whom the difficulties of old age press most hardly, would not be touched by it. (3) The difficulties of administration are declared to be practically insuperable. Questions of settlement would be expensive and vexatious. (4) It is pronounced a most hazardous experiment to make the county councils, which are here centralized bodies, inexperienced in charitable matters and without local knowledge, centers for such administration.

The sympathies of the guardians in the Guild hall conference appear to have been in favor of some plan of old-age pensions. Rev. J. Charles Cox, chairman of the Brixworth board of guardians, quoted from Sir Spencer Walpole's memorandum :

The stern facts remain that (a) one person out of every five, of sixty-five years and upwards, was in receipt of relief on a particular day in 1892 ; (b) one person of every three of this age applied for relief in the course of the year ; (c) making a reasonable reduction for the well-to-do classes, one working man and woman out of every two are more or less dependent on the rates in their old age.

Continuing, the speaker contended that the poverty in old age is a crying scandal to the nation ; that provision for old age can not be made by the great bulk of the working classes with wages at their present level ; that the financial position of both friendly societies and trade unions renders it hopeless to expect further help from such sources, and that dis-

aster must overtake them if they attempt it ; that the difficulty can be solved only by the intervention of the state, and that a general state pension for the aged would remove hopelessness and promote thrift in the workers.

Mr. Cox thought that the cost of administration should be borne locally, but that the pensions should be paid from the national purse ; that the guardians should be the inquiring and administering agency, but that when a pension has once been granted it should be paid through the post office and convey no civic disability. These views were combated by Mr. A. F. Vulliamy, clerk to the Ipswich board of guardians. Mr. Russell, of the local government board, while not committing himself to old-age pensions, went so far as to express the opinion that it would be well for the country if some workable scheme could be devised, and to maintain that the object of those who are pressing it is a good object. He was apparently unable to discover the source from which the necessary funds could be provided, and was also unable, as any one who looks beneath the surface must be, to see any real difference in principle between relief given in this way and ordinary outdoor relief from public funds.

The other subject which received most attention at the Guild hall conference was the means for providing and training nurses for the indoor poor.

ENVIRONMENT VERSUS HEREDITY.

[Further experience regarding the interesting question raised in the April number by Mr. Lyman P. Alden, as to the risk or safety of adopting children coming from our institutions and societies for dependent or delinquent children, is given in the following communications, which we have received this month. Other workers of long experience with children will write for the June number, and the editors invite still further communications from those interested and experienced in the subject.]

HOUSE OF REFUGE, }
GLEN MILLS, PENNSYLVANIA. }

Such study and consideration as it has been possible to give to this subject, in the midst of the multitudinous occupations of a superintendent's life, have, during a dozen years or more, brought me to the conclusion that absolute knowledge concerning the relative importance of the influence exercised by heredity and environment is impossible. No record of continuous criminality in families through generations can, in my opinion, have much to do with proving the force of heredity upon character, inasmuch as each succeeding generation has been brought up under the influence of the preceding and already vitiated. The fact that children taken in infancy who are the offspring of criminal or vicious parents in some cases turn out criminal and vicious, no more proves that the result is caused by a heredity taint, than does the fact that children of good parents sometimes turn out criminal and vicious, prove that the parents have been criminal or vicious.

Opinions upon this, as upon all subjects, are of comparatively little

value; how little, can only be known to those who have tested their opinions by scientific investigation capable of showing absolute results. It may seem, therefore, that to give an opinion upon this subject after acknowledging of how slight value opinions are, is useless. But it has already been said that absolute knowledge upon the subject is not possible, and therefore the only attainable data possible are the opinions of a large number of observers, who have with some kind of scientific interest tried to fairly estimate the weight of various facts and phenomena bearing on the question.

For my own guidance in action in the treatment of those who come under my charge, I have settled down to about this basis: Character is not inherited; physical constitution and physical quality are inherited,—and in the physical, of course, I include the brain as well as the other parts of the body. The environment in which a child is placed determines his character almost absolutely, in so far as the limitations of his physical constitution and quality allow of variation.

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Early in the years of my dealing with delinquent and dependent children, this matter of the quality of children's bodies, the kind of material of which they are made, the fineness of its grain or its coarseness, the sensitiveness of the nerves or their obtuseness, the quality of the brain determining the character of impressions that it is possible to make upon it, and of the mentation possible for it, began to appeal to me, but only in more recent years, after some very careful studies to which I have been led from other sides of the subject, have I even in my own mind formulated definite opinions upon the subject.

In the course of an investigation some time ago, involving several hundred pupils, it was discovered, somewhat to my surprise, that the only ones who could be considered incorrigibles,—and even of this number many afterwards proved to have been blameless in their lives,—were deficient in brain quality, being capable of receiving instruction to a certain extent, and of a certain kind, and then coming to a standstill. I had been looking for the relation of physical defects to incorrigibility, and found, instead of what are ordinarily called physical defects, defects of the brain, but just as truly physical as though they had been of back or lungs or limbs. From whatever source these children should spring the result would be about the same, the environment being the same; indeed, among the small number that were sifted out by exclusion from the hundreds, were pupils whose parentage was good, the father of

one of them being a man in excellent standing in the business world, and few indeed of them showing the lowest antecedents.

In certain other investigations concerning recidivists, covering a period of five years, and consequently nearly two thousand pupils discharged, it was discovered that many of those returned,—which was of course a very small proportion of the number discharged,—came from the better homes of those released rather than from the poorer.

Not to make this contribution too long, I would put my views into one or two sentences, thus:

Heredity is physical. In the forcing surroundings of a low, degraded life, the children surviving are precociously developed and their characters are fixed to an extraordinary degree at an age before those in normal conditions of life begin to harden at all into shape.

Environment determines character, limited, however, in its operation by the natural limitations of the child; and failures in getting reasonably good results in bringing up children, both in homes and institutions, grow out of the failure to appreciate the physical limitations of the child, and the inability to provide the necessary training in the direction which would be indicated, if from the beginning we knew what these limitations were.

F. H. NIBECKER.

LYMAN SCHOOL FOR BOYS, }
WESTBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS. }

The children that are received here are, as a rule, nearly fifteen

years old, and stay with us about twenty months. I note a great many peculiarities, some of which I know to be hereditary, using that word in its broad sense of intellectual and nervous disabilities which were evidently put upon it at birth. I find several cases where there are marked peculiarities which may be due to parental conditions, to the intemperate habits of the parents, or to the bad conditions of life under which they have been obliged to exist. But to get at the scientific basis, such as would make the cases worthy of consideration with reference to their bearing upon the question at issue, I have not the information with reference to their previous lives nor opportunities for observations which warrant me in making any considerable generalization.

I have under my care some marked cases of the effects of heredity. One is that of a boy, now nearly fourteen years old, with development physically of a child of ten years, intellect quite precocious in certain directions, very deficient in judgment, extremely irritable, and requiring the greatest tact to manage, who probably can never be made self-supporting. A half-brother of the same, eighteen years old, of a mild disposition, but rather feeble mental development, while not idiotic, can not be made self-supporting and must always be cared for by people who are paid for it or in an institution. Both have the same mother, of apparently a neurotic temperament. Father of the younger one was a former inmate of this institu-

tion, intemperate. I do not know much about the father of the older one, but am of the opinion that he also was intemperate. Mother was not intemperate. These two are examples of marked heredity.

I should say that, among the 300 that I have here now, I could find perhaps twenty who bear the evidence of heredity, which they will always carry with them, and I doubt very much if they can outgrow it or overcome it. When it comes to the finer shades of heredity it is to me a very difficult matter to determine how much of it is heredity and how much is due to the surroundings from birth until the present time.

There is one product of environment with which I have to deal that I find almost as obstinate and hopeless a defect, so far as overcoming it is concerned, as these marked inheritances, and that is the disposition to lie. This is an unquestionable result, purely and simply, of environment, and we seem to make little impression upon the majority of cases with which we have to deal. This, however, I take it, would not be considered as a fair argument against the power of training to overcome the defects engendered by environment. I incline to believe that the effects of environment are nearly as difficult to change after the child becomes sixteen or seventeen years old as the apparently permanent effects of heredity. This is due to the fact that the child's brain and nervous system is a developing organism, the quality and character of which are determined

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by the post-natal as well as the pre-natal conditions, and when these things which we sometimes call habits have grown into the brain and nervous system the individual can rise superior to them only by an enormous effort of will directed by a tolerably fixed purpose, two conditions which fail to exist as often as one could hope they would.

T. F. CHAPIN.

STATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, }
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK. }

I have in mind the experience of a family near a country village not far from the city of Buffalo, to whose home several years ago there came a mother and a daughter, a child four or five years of age. She was wandering through the country and was not known to the people at all. At the request of the mother, the child, who was about the age of their own daughter, was adopted by these people, who were well-to-do christian farmers. The adopted child was treated in every way the same as their own, given the same opportunities of education and society. At the age of eighteen or thereabouts she suddenly disappeared, and has never been heard of since, or at least had not when I last knew about the case. I regard this as a striking example of the influence of heredity, which the most favorable environment did not succeed in overcoming.

We have had numerous instances of boys in this institution, who when very small had been taken by good families and adopted, and who had endeavored to bring up the boys to

become respectable and respected in the community. Upon reaching the age of puberty, these boys, who previously had apparently been well behaved and well disposed, suddenly changed their course of conduct and became so uncontrollable that it was necessary for their foster parents to cause their commitment to this institution.

We have had in the institution three boys from the same family—two brothers, one half-brother, all of whom have the physical characteristics of a syphilitic heredity. It has been necessary to transfer two of these boys, one to the Monroe county penitentiary, the other to the Elmira reformatory, and the one who is with us, a half-brother of the other two, is a very unsatisfactory boy to deal with. He shows signs as he grows older of developing the same vicious characteristics that his two brothers manifested.

My experience has been such that under no circumstances would I adopt into my family a child whose parentage had been vicious. There is a possibility, of course, that they may revert to some original type somewhere along the line of descent that would render them less degenerate than their parents, but the fact still remains that there is a strong probability that the children of vicious, degenerate parents will manifest those tendencies to a greater or less degree in spite of environment. I believe that a proper environment may improve to a greater or less degree the natural tendencies, but the same environment bestowed

upon a child of good parentage would produce a very much higher type of man or woman.

F. H. BRIGGS.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, }
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA. }

The question the REVIEW submits is, "Whether we feel that the hereditary taint of dissolute or criminal parents must show in the children, or whether we think that the environment we are now affording such children in institutions or families is a more powerful influence than heredity."

This question assumes that environment in an institution is the same thing as environment in a family, and this assumption appears also in the account of cases given by Mr. Alden in his article in the April issue, in which the bad character of the parents and the continued evil in the children are described, with no clear indication of the treatment adopted to overcome inherited traits in the children. I do not believe that a child of vicious parents, when removed from their control early in life, can be well cared for in an institution, where it is impossible to secure for him the individual care which he needs. On the other hand, to place such a child in a family, without a thorough investigation into the character and circumstances of the family, and constant supervision of the home, is equally ill-judged. The experience of this society for sixteen years shows that children from the ranks of pauperism and crime, if taken when under eleven years of age, and

placed in carefully selected homes, almost always turn out well. We have but few failures to record. This encouraging and striking fact is our contribution to the discussion of the subject.

The following cases are in no sense exceptional, but are taken almost at random from our books. The necessity of condensing the statement of each case makes it impossible to give an adequate idea of the time and thought expended on the children for whose care we have been responsible.

No. 1. A girl, received by us April 21, 1886, when two years old. Mother disreputable and dishonest, father unknown, brother in house of refuge. Visited thirty-six times. From the long record of visits, I quote, under different dates: "A— well and happy, is studying music, family very fond of her." March, 1898: "A— doing well at home and in school, improving in music, plays the organ very well, takes a daughter's place in family." November, 1898: "A— is a tall, fine-looking girl, family much interested in her, and would like to see her nicely educated." This girl is now fifteen years old, and her record throughout is good; her inherited traits could not well be worse.

No. 2. Boy, received February 16, 1892, when sixteen years old. Found begging on the streets at night; mother a drunkard; boy very much neglected; visited twenty times; passed from our care when he became of age with a very good record. Now in the United States army. Has sent home a newspaper from one of our foreign possessions.

No. 3. Boy, received January 28, 1893, when ten years old. Had run away from two children's institutions,

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and had stolen money; had been arrested several times for larceny. His mother had been in the house of correction and in prison for larceny, did not live with her husband, whom she accused of bad habits. February, 1893, pastor's report: "H—— attends church regularly with the family." From visitors' reports; May, 1893: "H—— has made remarkable progress during his four months' stay with this family. He does well at school and is perfectly happy." December, 1893: "H—— in perfect health and spirits, doing well at home and at school." August, 1894: "H—— an attractive boy, in excellent health, much improved in character, and devoted to family." August, 1897: "Mr. T. has bought H—— a violin, as he is very fond of music, and he plays very nicely, says he never wants to return to the city." We have no reason to doubt that this boy, now sixteen years of age, will continue to do well.

No. 4. Three brothers received January 19, 1893, when three, seven, and twelve years of age. Both parents intemperate. Father died in an almshouse. Mother also dead when we received the children, who were found in an attic in a wretched state of neglect, running the streets from morning to night. All have done well; have been visited twenty times. The oldest is now self-supporting in a prominent business house in this city. Concerning the youngest, the visitor reports in June, 1898: "Mrs. B. says S—— is a dear little fellow, and that they could not get along without him. He receives the best of care, and is very well and happy." A report of the other brother, dated July, 1898, says: "In an exceptionally good home. Is a manly little boy, happy in his home, and doing well. Attends church and Sunday-

school. Family very fond of him." These brothers were placed in different homes, as each one needed special care.

No. 5. A girl, received November 17, 1893, when twelve years old. Born in a county almshouse. Mother and grandmother now inmates of the almshouse; the family have a bad record, have been almshouse inmates for thirty-five years. The father lived there seven years. This girl was placed in a good home in November, 1893. In May, 1894, the visitor reports: "G—— very much improved in her behavior. Does not study well. Very happy in her home." August, 1894: "G—— in perfect health. Has difficulty in studies. Is in a beautiful home." October, 1894: "G—— was seen at school; the teacher thinks she is getting along better, and shows a disposition to learn." December, 1894: "G—— attending school regularly, and likes her home." May, 1897: "G—— very well. Contented in her home, and family report her doing well." November, 1898: "G—— very well. Attends church. A good home."

These cases and hundreds of similar ones which may be found on our records, show the results that may be expected from the plan of caring for neglected children by placing them in good families. And I can not close without a tribute of praise for the many citizens of our state, who, for a nominal sum, give to our wards the care, training, and frequently the affection, which no money can buy. The child, taken at first to board, often makes his way into a place in the household which becomes permanent.

ELIZABETH KERR.

THE CHARITY LEGISLATION OF 1898-99.

A helpful index of the movement of public opinion in social questions is found in the annual legislative enactments of the various states roughly indicated under the heading "charitable." An effort has been made in the communications which follow to give the more important results of such legislative work up to April 20. Matters which at that time were still undecided will be reported as far as possible in later issues. It has not seemed practicable at this time, when the full bearing of some of the laws passed, and the significance of the failure of some to pass, is still undetermined, to attempt to draw any general conclusions from the winter's work in aggregate. This the editors may do further on in the year.

NEW YORK.

While the prolonged session of the legislature makes it impossible at the present writing to furnish exact information as to the final outcome of charitable legislation, enough has already been accomplished to indicate the trend of events. Of one thing we may be assured. Few legislative sessions have witnessed such activity and persistence in the presentation of measures affecting the charitable interests of the state. The number of titles of such bills is 101, while the total number of bills

printed covering these various subjects is 217. This latter number includes duplicates, as, for example, where the same measure is introduced simultaneously in both the assembly and the senate, and it also includes amended reprints of original bills. The number of printed bills on all subjects, up to the time of writing (April 19), is 3,823. Thus the measures which may fairly be classed as eleemosynary in character represent more than five per cent of the total.

A more enlightening comparison is to be found between what may be called general and special legislation, or bills which relate to the operation and management of state charities and those which have reference to local and private interests. The number of measures introduced which affect the general policy of the state in the administration of charity is fifty-four; while the number of local and private bills is forty-seven. These figures include general and special appropriation bills, which are separately classified in the table. A study of the character of the local and private measures shows that they have to do chiefly with appropriations of public moneys or with exemptions from taxation. Thirty of the forty-seven local bills are of this nature. Again, all the local appropriation bills, with but two or

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three exceptions, relate to societies and institutions located in the city of New York.

Subsidy Regulations.

This fact will occasion no surprise to those who are acquainted with the policy so long pursued by that city of subsidizing its private charities. The present legislature, however, has placed the responsibility for any extension of this policy upon the city itself. The principle of home rule, so much talked (one might almost say, hawked) about at the present session, finds application in Senator Stranahan's bill: "To amend the greater New York charter, in relation to charitable, eleemosynary, correctional, or reformatory institutions." The amendment reads:

The board of estimate and apportionment may also, in its discretion, appropriate and allow moneys raised by taxation or received from any other source and properly applicable thereto, to any charitable, eleemosynary, correctional, or reformatory institution, wholly or partly under private control for the care, support, and maintenance of its inmates; such payments to be made only for such inmates as are received and retained therein pursuant to rules established by the state board of charities. The board of estimate and apportionment may in any year, and from time to time, increase or diminish the sum authorized to be paid to any institution, association, corporation, or society included in the twenty-second paragraph of this section.

This bill has passed and been promptly signed by the governor. As an immediate result, many bills

asking for city moneys for private institutions have been put to rest. Eleven such propositions, as the table indicates, lie buried in committee. The fact should not be overlooked that Senator Stranahan's bill not only gives to the city authorities the right to say what additional private societies shall receive public moneys, but it also gives to these same officials the right to diminish as well as to increase appropriations to institutions now singled out by the charter for special favors.

Free Coal.

Two other important measures affecting New York city have been introduced at the present session. Both propositions relate to outdoor relief. The "Harburger free coal bill" authorizes the board of estimate and apportionment to set apart \$25,000 for the purpose of supplying the poor of greater New York with fuel. Failing in his attempt to have the bill favorably reported, Assemblyman Harburger sought to have the committee discharged from further consideration of the measure, but was defeated by a test vote of sixty-two to sixty-three. The significance of these figures lies in the exhibition which they afford of the attitude of the present legislature toward the principle of organized charity. The advocates of this principle opposed the bill on the ground that outdoor relief should be divorced from public administration and intrusted to societies supported by private contributions. The generosity of private benevolence, following upon

the February blizzard, was cited as proof that organized charity was abundantly able to cope with the situation.

"Widow's
Bill."

A far wider departure from the general policy of charitable administration as it exists in New York to-day is proposed in the Ahearn "widow's bill." Senator Ahearn was the father of a somewhat similar, though more radical, measure at the last session. The present bill permits the commissioner of charities for the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx to pay to any indigent widow whose husband was a citizen of the United States and a resident of the city of New York for a year prior to his death, "a sum of money equal to the amount now allowed by law to a society for a child, for each child of the said widow, for the maintenance, care, and welfare of each child and paid by said city to an institution to which the child or children might have been committed." In other words, the city is to pay these mothers \$2 a week for the support of each child. A higher premium could scarcely be placed upon desertion or a greater temptation offered to abuse public charity. There is, however, very little prospect that the bill will become a law, even if passed.

Against
State
Supervision.

Turning now to the consideration of legislation which has to do with the state supervision of charity, we shall find measures advocated which are of exactly opposite tendencies. On the one hand, there are bills pending which would decidedly curtail the

present policy of holding both public and private charities directly responsible to the state. Foremost among the limitations proposed are those contained in the so-called "Gerry bills." The primary purpose of the legislation asked for is to free the New York society for the prevention of cruelty to children, commonly known as the Gerry society, from the visitation and inspection of the state board of charities. On the claim that his society is not a charitable organization, but a "subordinate governmental agency," Mr. Gerry seeks to have the legislature settle a contention which is now before the court of appeals. It is not denied that the society receives nearly a hundred thousand dollars annually in contributions of public and private moneys, nor that it clothes, shelters, and feeds hundreds of destitute and neglected children. The claim is made that the charitable part of its work is merely incidental to its police functions. Were the contention a just one, it is a fair question whether it is good public policy to grant unsupervised police functions to a private organization. Apparently the legislature is not ready to go the length that Mr. Gerry desires, and absolve his society from state supervision, for his bills have thus far failed of passage in either house.

Another bill intended to remove certain institutions, declared by a decision of the court to be within the jurisdiction of the state board of charities from the visitation of that body, is one which permits schools for the blind and deaf-mutes to reg-

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ister with the department of education. Until now, regarding such institutions as plainly within the category of charitable institutions, in so far as they clothe, feed, and shelter gratuitously pupils committed to their care, the state board has regularly visited and inspected these schools. The objection raised to this procedure, if valid, would seem to lie with the constitution of the state, which distinctly imposes the obligation of supervision of charitable institutions upon the board.

With these two exceptions, the tendency of legislation at this session has been to extend the principle of state supervision. Noticeably is this the case with the bill which places the responsibility for the licensing and regulation of dispensaries in the state board of charities. The bill provides that this board "shall make rules and regulations, and alter and amend the same, in accordance with which all dispensaries shall furnish, and applicants obtain, medical or surgical relief, advice or treatment, medicine or apparatus." The board, however, may not specify the particular school of medicine in accordance with which a dispensary shall conduct its work.

Supervision of Construction.

Another measure calculated to extend the supervision of the state places the responsibility for the approval or rejection of plans and specifications for new buildings for state charitable institutions, and also for unusual repairs or improvements to existing buildings, upon the board

of charities. The bill, as originally drawn by the introducer, would have made the state board responsible in a similar way for all institutions, private as well as public, subject to its supervision—a most extraordinary extension of state supervision, and quite beyond the capacity of any state body as at present constituted. In the case of buildings erected at the expense of the state, the policy enunciated in the bill, as amended, seems sound. One effect of the measure, if enacted, should be to conserve economy and utility in the construction of state buildings for charitable purposes. To this end boards of trustees and managers of such institutions may be expected to show greater willingness to avail themselves of the services of the state architect's office.

Debt Limits.

Amendments proposed to the state finance law seek to obtain a more economical expenditure of public moneys devoted to charitable and reformatory purposes. If the bills now pending become laws, disbursements will, in the future, be strictly limited to the amounts appropriated for the purposes. Charitable boards or institutions may not incur indebtedness in advance of specific appropriations. It is proposed also that officers and employees in state charitable institutions shall be classified and a schedule of salaries arranged applicable to the various grades.

Appropriations.

Charitable appropriation bills seem to have received close scrutiny, if one may judge from the care with

which many of these bills in amended form have presented itemized statements of how the moneys called for were to be expended. A conference committee is still at work upon the general appropriation bill. As amended in the senate, this bill carries state charitable appropriations, chiefly for operating expenses, exceeding \$1,300,000. This sum is further supplemented by the supply bill to the extent of \$62,500. In addition to these handsome allowances, special appropriation bills for seven of the state charitable institutions call for some \$375,000, most of which is to go for additions and repairs.

Appeals have not been wanting that the state should enlarge the scope of its responsibility by the establishment of several new institutions, such as a home for the aged of both sexes, a state industrial school for girls, and one for colored orphans, and a state hospital for consumptives. The sum named in the original bills was \$475,000. These plans seem to have met with little financial encouragement from the ways and means committee of either house. Until the state shall see its way clear to finish state institutions like that at Bedford more promptly than it has done in the past, it would seem an unwise policy for it to launch out into untried fields.

The general character of the charitable legislation that is in process of enactment has been indicated. The record of the session is, in the main, likely to be creditable, not only for

the bills which pass, but for those which are defeated. Undoubtedly this is due in no small degree to the feeling that is abroad that palpably vicious legislation will not go, so long as the present executive is in the chair. One needs to be on the ground to realize the influence exerted by the strong-willed man who believes in making the word governor more than an empty symbol. In the exercise of his appointing power, Colonel Roosevelt is setting a high standard for membership upon the governing boards of our public charities. The principal of state rather than local representation upon such boards is receiving his hearty indorsement. In consequence, the management of all these institutions should in future be conducted on progressive lines, and the general welfare of the inmates take precedence over questions of local patronage.

WALTER S. UFFORD.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Prison Labor
on
Waste Land.

The legislature of 1898 passed an act "relative to reclaiming and improving waste and unused land with the labor of prisoners from jails and houses of correction." The act provides for the purchase, or taking in fee, by the governor and council, of any waste and unused land, not exceeding one thousand acres in area, to be reclaimed, improved, and disposed of for the benefit of the commonwealth. Upon this land are to be erected iron buildings of cheap construction, capable of accommo-

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dating not more than one hundred prisoners; and therein is to be established a temporary industrial camp, to which are to be removed prisoners from jails and houses of correction, who shall be employed in reclaiming and improving the land, and in preparing by hand-labor material for road-building. All this work is to be done under regulations made by the general superintendent of prisons. Any land reclaimed or improved may be devoted to the use of the commonwealth, or may be sold by the governor and council. Any road material prepared may be sold to the authorities of the commonwealth, or any county, city, or town therein. The last legislature failed to make an appropriation to carry this law into effect, but an appropriation bill for the purpose is now pending, and seems practically certain of enactment.

An act has been passed providing that all charitable corporations whose property is exempt from taxation shall prepare and send to the state board of charities annual reports showing their property, receipts and expenditures, number of beneficiaries, and such other information as the board may require. The only institutions not under state control which have been hitherto required to make reports to the board are those which receive grants of money from the state treasury. This law is likely to require reports from nearly two hundred charitable organizations, and will be the means of furnishing the board and the public

with valuable information concerning them.

The legislature of 1898 passed an act providing that all sentences to the state farm for drunkenness shall be for a period not exceeding one year, and that sentences for other offenses shall be for a period not exceeding two years, and giving the state board of charity authority to issue permits to be at liberty to any prisoners so held, under such conditions as the board may impose. Under this law the board has established certain rules, providing that prisoners sentenced for drunkenness shall,—if they appear to have reformed, and have homes and employment to go to,—be released on probation at the end of five months from the date of commitment. But if they have been previously committed to the institution, they are kept there eight months; and, if committed more than once, ten months. The periods of detention for prisoners committed for other offenses are nine, fourteen, and twenty months. The rules provide, however, for special consideration of exceptional cases.

The legislature now in session has passed an act providing that "whenever a woman shall be committed to any insane hospital or asylum the magistrate committing her shall, unless she is accompanied by her father, husband, brother, or son, designate a woman who shall be an attendant, or one of the attendants, to accompany her to the hospital or asylum of commitment.

Probation
of Inebriates.

Private Charities to
Furnish Reports.

Insane
Women.

**Epileptic
Hospital.**

The new state hospital for epileptics, which was opened nearly a year ago, has already more than its complement of numbers; and the legislature has appropriated money for the erection of a new building, which when completed will, with the other buildings, enable the trustees to provide for about three hundred and fifty patients, and to secure a better classification of the inmates than can be arranged for at present. The legislature has also changed the age of commitment to this hospital so that, instead of providing for the care and treatment of adults only, the hospital now receives patients of fourteen years of age and upwards.

**Vacation
Schools.**

The successful efforts to carry on vacation schools during the past few years result this year in an act authorizing the establishment of such schools in Boston.

**State Care
for Children.**

The state board of charity has for two successive years recommended that all dependent children,—that is, those who become a public charge because they are orphans, or because their parents are too poor to maintain them,—as well as juvenile offenders and neglected children, should be cared for, maintained, and controlled by the state, irrespective of the question of their local settlement. The effect of the law would be to provide better care and treatment on the whole for the children; and while it would impose an additional burden on the commonwealth, would relieve many of the small

towns of considerable expense. A bill embodying this recommendation was recently presented to the legislature now in session, and was favorably reported on by the committee to which it was referred; but some differences of opinion arose with regard to the wording of certain clauses of the bill, and it seems now not unlikely that the whole matter will be referred to the next general court.

**State Control
for Prisons.**

An attempt has been made to secure legislation to provide for the maintenance of jails and houses of correction by the commonwealth. A bill was presented embodying such provision, and was supported and advocated by a considerable number of philanthropic persons, but it received comparatively few votes in the legislature, and failed to pass.

JOHN D. WELLS.

ILLINOIS.**Pawnshop.**

A pawnshop bill was passed by the legislature legalizing a charge of twelve per cent annually upon pawnshop loans. A similar measure has been argued at previous sessions without success, because it has included a provision for loans upon furniture and household effects, and the strength of the chattel mortgage and instalment store dealers has been so great that they have been able to defeat every such proposition. While the new bill is valuable and will undoubtedly result in the early organization of a company to conduct a pawnshop really in the interest of its patrons, yet loans on household goods in-

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**Juvenile
Court Bill.**

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involve even more exorbitant rates than those at pawnshops. The impossibility of obtaining legislation which includes such transactions has a curiously sinister aspect.

Several measures affecting children are of especial importance, the juvenile court bill, so-called, the truant school bill, the vacation school bill, and some others, not approved at the time of writing, but which will be noted next month.

The juvenile court bill provides that all children's cases may be heard in one central court over which a judge of the circuit or superior court shall preside. In the matter of dependent children the judge is empowered to confide the child to the care of a respectable private citizen, or to a society for finding homes for children, or to a suitable institution or to an industrial school. By this provision the judge is given the discretionary power heretofore lacking, as until now the judge has had no discretion, but must commit every child adjudged dependent to an industrial school. In the case of delinquent children the judge may send to institutions for such children or to state reformatory or to city prison—but in no case can sentence extend beyond the child's majority; or the child may be committed to the care of a parole officer, for whose appointment the law provides. All children's home-finding societies are required to report to the state board of charities, and no new societies can be incorporated without the sanction of this board.

Truancy.

The truant or parental school law provides for the establishment of boarding schools to which truant children of compulsory school age may be sent by the court. No child may be committed for longer than until the age of fourteen, the limit of compulsory school attendance. Children may be discharged on parole. Both the juvenile court law and the truant school law closely follow Massachusetts legislation.

Vacation Schools.

The vacation school bill is permissive and enables the board of education of Chicago to carry on such schools. Experimental schools, maintained by private funds with the cooperation of the public school authorities for the last three summers, have shown the public the value of such efforts to make the summer pleasanter and wholesomer for the children of the poor and have paved the way for this law.

An Epileptic Village.

The state board of public charities has been made a commission to obtain an option upon a site for an epileptic colony, and to prepare plans for the same. It is intended that this new institution shall be carefully developed along the freest and most modern lines and that it shall, in fact, offer the nearest possible approximation to pleasant village conditions of life.

The tendency of the institution to retain children for longer and longer periods has had another illustration in an amendment secured to the law governing the home for soldiers' and sailors' orphans. Originally the chil-

dren could be retained only until fourteen years old; two years ago the age was extended to sixteen; and now the present amendment extends the age for girls to eighteen.

There was evident in the present legislature a marked feeling of impatience with the existing system of managing the state institutions with separate boards of trustees and a state board of charities. It was probably only the early date of adjournment which prevented a strong effort to pass a bill providing for one central administrative board. If such a measure were accompanied in good faith by a merit system law, there is no room to doubt its desirability.

An effort was made to enact a prison labor law practically like that of New York. This failed, but a commission was created to investigate the whole subject.

INDIANA.

County and Township Reform.

The legislature of Indiana, in its session of sixty-one days, which is the limit prescribed by law, gave favorable consideration to the needs of the various charitable and correctional institutions of the state, and also to suggestions of practical means for advancing the interests of the dependent, delinquent, and defective classes. Both political parties were pledged to a general system of county and township reform. The result was that a separate bill was enacted, having each of these two political divisions in view. The existing system is greatly changed, in that existing officers have authority

along legislative, executive, and judicial lines in some respects at the same time. The administrative and legislative work of both the county and township is separated and the separate duties devolve upon different bodies. Administrative officers are required to submit estimates of their expenditures for the succeeding year. These estimates are published and are considered by the council, which is the appropriating body, and requisite appropriations made. The officials have been charged with the duty of expending the sum appropriated. These laws are applicable to all phases of county and township government.

County Board of Charities and Correction.

In addition there are supplemental laws affecting both township and county affairs. One of the former provides for a board of county charities and correction. The judge of the circuit court is authorized to appoint six persons, and upon petition of fifteen reputable citizens must appoint six persons, not more than three of whom shall be of the same political party and not more than four of whom shall be men. These are to have authority to visit and inspect the various charitable and correctional institutions in the county receiving any support from public funds, at least once a quarter, and they are to make quarterly reports to the board of county commissioners.

Poor Relief.

The clause in the old law regarding county business, authorizing county commissioners to relieve paupers, has been repealed,

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and all outdoor poor relief of an official character must be made through the township trustee. The law enacted relating to the township poor relief provides that relief may be given to any poor person or family to the amount of the value of \$15, excepting burial, or extending over a period of three months in any one year. The trustee will make a report to the commissioners if further relief is desired, and they may authorize relief for a further amount of \$15 or for a duration of three months. The trustee is prohibited from furnishing any able-bodied non-resident transportation at the cost of the township, or from aiding able-bodied persons without first endeavoring to provide some form of labor for them. The law requires careful investigation of all persons applying for relief and co-operation with all investigating or aid-giving associations in the township.

Another law amends the act providing for the burial of ex-Union soldiers and sailors by including the wife or widow of such persons.

Almshouses. An act was passed regulating the management of county asylums for the poor, providing that the superintendent shall be appointed for a term of two years, and that he shall be a man of character, competence, and fitness to perform the duties. Estimates shall be made of all supplies necessary for the maintenance of the poor asylum, and public notices be given and bids received for furnishing these supplies once each quarter.

**Importation
of
Children.**

A law was enacted regulating the importation of dependent children into the state, providing that any person, corporation, association, or institution that desires to bring into the state for the purpose of placing in a family any child, shall give a bond in favor of the state of Indiana, in the sum of \$10,000, to be approved by the board of state charities, conditioned as follows:

That they will not bring or send, or cause to be brought or sent, into this state any child that is incorrigible, or one that is of unsound mind or body; that they will at once, upon the placement of such child, report to the board of state charities its name and age, and the name and residence of the person with whom it is placed; that if any child shall, before it reaches the age of twenty-one years, become a public charge, they will, within thirty days after written notice shall have been given them of such fact by the board of state charities, remove such child from the state; and if any such dependent child shall be convicted of crime or misdemeanor and imprisoned within three years from the time of its arrival within the state, such person, corporation, association or institution will remove from the state such child immediately upon its being released from such imprisonment, and upon failure, after thirty days' notice and demand to remove as aforesaid, any such child who shall have either become a public charge as aforesaid, or who shall have been convicted as aforementioned, in either event such person, corporation, association, or institution shall at once and thereby forfeit the sum of \$1,000 as a penalty therefor, to be recovered upon such bond by a suit

in the name of the state of Indiana; that they will place or cause to be placed, each of such dependent children upon written contract, which will secure to such child a proper home, and will make the person so receiving such child responsible for its proper care, education and training; that they will properly supervise the care and training of such children, and that each of such children shall be visited at least once a year by a responsible agent of the person, corporation, association or institution so placing or causing to be placed, such child as herein provided; that they will make to the said board of state charities such reports of their work as said board from time to time may require.

A provision of the act, however, is that it shall not apply to a relative going to another state to bring a child for the purpose of giving it a home in his family.

Compulsory Education.

The compulsory education law is amended to provide for a less number of truant officers and extend the requirements so that all children, sound in mind and body, between the ages of six and fifteen years, shall be required to attend the full term of school, except that children over thirteen years of age who are employed, or upon whom there are others dependent, are compelled to attend school only twelve weeks in a year. The necessary books, clothing and supplies are to be furnished by the school officers to those who can not otherwise procure them.

Prisoners.

In addition to the laws enumerated several were passed relating in one way or another to the state institutions. The parole

law was extended to prisoners, except those imprisoned for treason or murder in the first and second degrees, who have been sentenced to the state prison for a definite time. It was also made applicable to inmates of the woman's prison.

Owing to the fact that a number of convicts in the state prison were unprovided with labor and that no provision was made by the last legislature when it abolished the right to employ convicts on contract, it was necessary for the legislature this year to make some provision for the employment of the inmates of the state prison. After a conference between the board of control, the state labor commission, and a committee representing the federation of labor, a law was framed providing that the prison board might contract for the labor of 400 of the convicts, and in addition for fifty per cent of the number of inmates over and above 800. No contract is to extend beyond October 1, 1904. Authority was also given the prison board to lease a tract of ground upon which as many of the remaining inmates as possible will be employed in growing crops. In addition, an appropriation of \$125,000 was made, available at the rate of \$25,000 a year, for the purpose of purchasing stock, tools, and machinery and to engage in manufacture of goods on state account, if such a plan should be deemed advisable.

A bill became a law providing for the establishment of a hospital for the criminal insane to adjoin the Indiana reformatory. The capacity is

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to be fifty inmates. Fifteen hundred dollars was voted for temporary care of the insane in the state prison.

The act establishing the Indiana reformatory was amended to provide for the appointment of a board of managers, of whom not more than two shall be appointed from one political party. By this means all state institutions but one are taken out from under the influence of partisan politics.

Appropriations.

Large appropriations were made for additional provision for the wards of the state. The central hospital for insane receives \$110,000 to build a one-story hospital, with accommodation for 100, and \$49,000 for the purpose of erecting three dining-rooms, by which room will be made for 105 more beds. The northern hospital for the insane receives \$80,000 to provide two buildings, for 100 inmates each. The eastern hospital for the insane receives \$33,000 for two hospital cottages, thirty beds each, and \$28,900 for a cottage for fifty-eight inmates. The southern hospital for the insane receives \$40,000 for a wing, to accommodate 132 patients, and \$5,000 to make available space that can be immediately utilized for thirty patients. Thus provision will be made for a total number of 585 additional patients at the four insane hospitals.

The institution for the deaf and dumb receives \$4,500 for a superintendent's cottage, which will make available room in the main building for forty additional pupils. The school for feeble-minded receives

\$42,500 for cottages for 200 additional children, 100 to be provided for each year. The state prison receives specific appropriations for minor repairs and improvements. The Indiana reformatory receives \$200,000 for a new cell-house with 600 cells; also \$5,000 for a new workshop, and \$5,200 for a laundry building and machinery.

The specific appropriations are distributed over three years, 1899, 1900, and 1901, and the sum of all regular and special appropriations amounts to \$3,091,640.

AMOS W. BUTLER.

CONNECTICUT.

A good many bills have been introduced in the state legislature this winter in regard to the dependent, defective, and criminal classes, but only a few of them have been acted on as yet. The others are still under consideration by the committees, or are on the calendar for future consideration by the two branches of the legislature. The chief matters of interest may be mentioned as follows:

Prison Matters.

In regard to the state prison, a bill was favorably reported admitting life prisoners, who had served at least fifteen years, to the privileges of parole by the state board of pardons under their rules governing paroles in general. A bill providing for indeterminate sentences in petty offenses was also reported favorably, but has not been acted upon yet. An appropriation is also asked for to provide an increased number of cells at the state prison, which has been overcrowded for some time.

**State School
for Boys.**

In regard to the Connecticut school for boys, at Meriden, bills have been introduced providing for the reduction of the number of trustees from twelve, the present number, to seven or eight, and giving their appointment to the governor, and not the senate, as at present. The idea of this is to secure better men for these positions by removing the appointments so far as possible from political influences, and to break up the group of four local trustees, who now practically control the affairs of the institution. Another bill was introduced to provide a supervising agent, who should have charge of securing homes and places at work for boys released on parole from the school, and to have oversight of them when so released during their minority. This is something which is greatly needed in this state, as the boys so released from the school have had practically no supervision, and have often drifted into a worse condition than before entering the school. Another bill was introduced reducing the price per capita paid by the state at the school for the support of the boys from \$3 to \$2.75 per week. This was done in the interest of economy, but it is hoped by many that it will not be passed, because they believe that the present amount is not too large to provide for the best welfare and training of the boys, although it is granted that the moneys have not been as wisely expended in the past as would be possible. These matters have not been acted on yet. A bill

establishing the minimum age at which boys should be committed to the school at ten years, except upon conviction for felony, was rejected by the committee upon the ground that this matter should be left to the discretion of the judges and justices of the peace. It is hoped to secure this point in the near future, however, for the judges have not exercised their discretion wisely, and many small boys of six, seven, and eight years have been committed to the school for no serious offenses, when they should more properly have been sent to the county homes for dependent children.

The Insane.

A bill has been passed prohibiting the commitment of insane prisoners in jails to the state hospital by county commissioners and sheriffs, which has been done a number of times under an old statute. Another already existing law provides more suitably for their commitment by the governor, after examination by some competent physician. A bill has been introduced establishing a different rate for the support of pauper and indigent insane persons in the state hospital. At present they are charged the same rate, \$2 a week, and the state pays the balance of the cost of support. It is believed that many persons are committed as indigent at this low rate whose friends and relatives might well pay for the full cost of their support.

The Blind.

A bill has been introduced to abolish the special state board of education for the

blind, which is an institution. It is believed that this can be done by the state board of education, perhaps, for this purpose. Another bill limiting the state school training for three years, the sum of tools and the pupil trade.

Children.

and many have been passed by the committee on the children, or contacted with the children, care of the children, the county board, in separate establishments, county, the other, this was

blind, which, so far as can be learned, is an institution peculiar to Connecticut. It is believed that the work can be done better and more economically by the legitimate state board of education, with the assistance, perhaps, of one special agent for this purpose, and it is not considered that the small number of blind persons in Connecticut require a special board for their care. All blind persons above school age could be supported in any proper institution by order of the governor. The matter, however, has not been reported yet by the committee. Another bill has been introduced limiting the time during which the state should pay for the industrial training of adult blind persons to three years, and granting each one the sum of \$200, to be invested in tools and machinery, to establish the pupil in some self-sustaining trade.

Children. In regard to county temporary homes for dependent and neglected children, a bill has been passed imposing a penalty for the commitment or retention of any demented or idiotic children or children suffering from any incurable or contagious disease. Another bill was introduced providing that such children might be committed to the care of the boards of management of the county homes, but should be boarded in private families, or placed in separate annexes which might be established, and not put in the county homes in association with the other children. The object of this was to remove all such children

from the town almshouses, where a number of them are now living, and to place them under responsible county and state supervision. As the bill apparently opposes the one which is already passed, it is doubtful if the latter measure will go through, but it is hoped that some provision for this unfortunate class may be secured. Another bill has been introduced providing that no complaint should be brought for the commitment of a child to a county temporary home until after it had been investigated and approved by the town committee for the home residing in the town in which the complaint was brought. The purpose of this was to prevent a number of improper and unnecessary commitments which had been made hastily by the courts without sufficient investigation. A bill has been introduced transferring the cost of support of children in the county home from the state, where it now rests, to the towns from which the children are committed. Theoretically the towns should support their dependent children, but in practice it is believed by many people that better results are secured for the children under the present system. A bill has been passed establishing the minimum age at which children may be committed to the county homes at four years, except by a special arrangement with the board of management.

Outdoor Relief.

In regard to town poor, a bill was introduced providing that selectmen and public charity officers should keep

more accurate records of the outdoor relief disbursed. Also that they should give no money in outdoor relief, but should give it in the form of orders, either upon a town store or upon certain responsible firms with whom contracts should be made from year to year. The bill was rejected on the ground that it would cause the selectmen and charity officials too much inconvenience in limiting their orders to certain firms, and in preventing their occasional giving of money, which they claimed was often necessary. It is believed that the real reason was a natural unwillingness to give up the considerable patronage which is enjoyed through the present often indiscriminate system of distributing outdoor relief. Another bill has been introduced providing that the state comptroller shall furnish all supplies, in the way of fuel, provisions, wearing apparel, and ordinary supplies, not perishable, required in all state institutions upon contracts which he shall make with the lowest responsible bidders. The comptroller shall charge the cost against any appropriation to the institution. This bill has not yet been acted upon.

Liquor Traffic. Other bills have been introduced providing for an investigation by the bureau of labor statistics into the relation of the liquor traffic to crime, pauperism, and insanity; to increase license fees to \$1,500; and to limit the number of licenses granted according to the population. An effort has also been made to repeal the charter of the

law and order league, a private association which has done considerable work in the prosecution of the violation of the liquor laws, but has aroused prejudice in some quarters through its aggressive methods.

Although so many measures have been introduced in regard to these different matters, only a few have been acted on so far, but it is probable that the others will be determined before long, in time for the next number of the REVIEW.

CHARLES P. KELLOGG.

MINNESOTA.

In the early winter many of the friends of the state board of corrections and charities feared that the incoming administration and the legislature of 1899 would inaugurate important changes in the work of that board, if in fact they did not supplant the present system with a board of control. However, in his message Governor Lind said that the board "has done and is doing exceedingly valuable work, and is exercising wholesome control over institutions. I believe that by strengthening its hands and paying greater heed to its recommendations we will have the advantage of the best features of both systems." He then recommended that the board be provided with funds necessary to inaugurate a system of analyzed accounts. The omnibus appropriation bill carries the appropriation requested. This has been the only important change in the work of this board. All of the various bills introduced looking to the adoption of a board of control have been killed.

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Six of the eight new recommendations made by the state board have been adopted by the legislature; the other two have been substantially adopted, the legislature having substantially adopted the recommendations of the board as to appropriations for maintenance and for extraordinary improvements and repairs at the various correctional and charitable institutions. The following are among the important bills passed:

Children.

Providing for the regulation of the importation of dependent children, making it a misdemeanor to bring children from without the state and place them in Minnesota homes without the approval of the state board of corrections and charities, the giving a bond of \$1,000, investigation of homes in which children are to be placed, and visiting them by the placing-out society at least once each year during their minority. This law prohibits the placing of incorrigible children, or those who are mentally or morally unsound.

Providing for the probation system for juvenile offenders. This bill is drawn substantially on the lines of the Massachusetts bill, except that it relates only to juveniles and that sentence is passed before the probationary period begins. The bill applies only to the three counties having the largest cities.

A bill providing for a truant office in the three counties having the largest cities.

Permitting child-caring societies to acquire absolute guardianship over children under ten years of age.

This will permit judges of probate to commit children to the child-caring societies and permits them to transfer the guardianship to other parties, thus granting them all the powers which the state public school has ever enjoyed; but the child-caring societies have the advantage over the state institution, inasmuch as they are not obliged to receive children unless they so desire.

Raising the age at which judges may commit to the state training school to seventeen years. Formerly the age was fifteen for girls and sixteen for boys. (This was not at the recommendation of the state board of corrections and charities.)

For reimbursing counties in which insane residents of other counties have been committed to state hospitals.

Giving the state board power to condemn lockups.

Directing judges of probate to appoint guardians in all cases where insane persons have any property.

Granting the privileges of the soldiers' home to soldiers of the Spanish war.

Providing for increasing the twine plant at the state prison fifty per cent.

Providing for the construction of greenhouses at each of the insane hospitals.

Providing for discharge from insane hospitals on the approval of the superintendent and secretary of the board.

Allowing the state reformatory board to discharge prisoners before the expiration of sentence, also a

resolution authorizing the state auditor to give credit to the state reformatory for the work performed by inmates in the construction of new buildings.

At this writing it seems probable that two state asylums for the chronic insane will be located on farms, one at Anoka and one at Hastings, each of the two asylums to have two cottages, so called, each with a capacity of 100 inmates, the cost of construction and equipment at each place not to exceed \$62,500. The governor vetoed the previous bill to establish a hospital at Anoka with a maximum capacity of 500, not more than sixty patients at any one cottage. The chief reason for the veto was that Minnesota has three large hospitals. The governor, as well as the state board, was decidedly in favor of the county plan, under rigid state supervision. It is a matter of interest to know that every member of the legislature who could be induced to visit any one of the Wisconsin asylums came back strongly favoring the adoption of the essential principles of the Wisconsin scheme for Minnesota.

There is a reasonable prospect of the passage of the following bills:

Making provisions for the establishment of district poorhouses.

Giving the prison board authority to increase the warden's salary to \$4,000 and house rent.

Defining tramps and vagrants: This will make it possible to arrest tramps without a warrant. Its definition of the tramp is rather drastic

and leaves to the discretion of the judge the exercise of discretion as to whether or not the law should be enforced in particular cases.

A law making it a misdemeanor for the management of state institutions to expend more than the amount appropriated for maintenance or construction.

Providing for a detention ward for insane in the city hospitals of the three largest cities.

It may perhaps be of interest to know some of the important bills which have been killed: One providing that school text-books shall be printed at the state reformatory; providing that prison managers shall rent quarries and furnish crushed stone f. o. b. at quarry to be used for good roads by counties; providing buildings at soldiers' home for soldiers' wives and widows; providing for the establishment of a second school for dependent children; providing for the marking of convict-made goods; relating to the parole of life prisoners.

JAMES F. JACKSON.

NEW JERSEY.

The effort, now five years old, to establish a state board of children's guardians has at last succeeded, as already reported in the REVIEW. The governor has notified the three members of the present commission that they will be asked to serve on the new board. In this connection it may be noted that a bill introduced by the chief opponents of the proposed board, the children's home society, giving them absolute control

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The legislature appropriated \$230,000 for the Rahway reformatory. Opposition was very strong, but through the work of the state charities aid association the appropriation was carried. The institution can now be opened within a year to accommodate 250 inmates. The plant will include one wing and the administration building, the cook-house, hospital, and chapel, and at least two industrial buildings and electric plant.

The committee on the revision of the school laws succeeded in passing a kindergarten bill which permits kindergartens under certain conditions and gives a state appropriation.

An appropriation was made for traveling libraries, and a number will be started within the next three months. This work is under the supervision of the state librarian. The appropriation was brought about by the state federation of women's clubs.

E. E. WILLIAMSON.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Advancement in the means afforded for the work of the various penal and charitable institutions of North Carolina has been a marked feature of the past eight years.

The general assembly of 1899 has not appropriated as large sums for improvement as has been the case for several terms previously, but it has carefully codified and enacted complete lunacy laws, which for the first time have

provisions affecting the feeble-minded, epileptic, etc. Difficulties connected with disputed membership of the several boards of directors of the hospitals have now all been harmonized, and those institutions remain under the control of their original superintendents. They are hereafter to be known as the state hospital at Morganton, the state hospital at Raleigh, and the state hospital at Goldsboro; the first two exclusively for white insane and inebriates, and the third for the colored of the same classes. The statistics for the past year show that nearly sixty per cent of those admitted during the year (ended November 30, 1898) in the first two of these and thirty-seven and one-half per cent in the third (or colored) were discharged cured; this very remarkable record speaks well for the hospital care and for the fine climatic conditions.

The new lunacy laws provide for the first time in this state for private institutions (hospitals, homes, or schools) for the insane, feeble-minded, epileptics, and inebriates, to be licensed by the board of public charities and governed by rules and regulations prescribed by that board; to be frequently inspected by the same authority and to report in full semi-annually. Licenses may be revoked by the board upon its complaint to the superior court of failure to observe regulations, resulting in neglect, cruelty, or immorality. The board is given the same power for the inspection and control of all county or corporate institutions of the same character; and also retains

its inspecting and visitatorial supervision of all the state penal and charitable institutions.

The criminal insane have been comfortably provided for within the inclosure of the penitentiary, but under the charge of the superintendent of the state hospital, the grounds of which are adjoining.

During the past year excellent school buildings, with all the modern improvements, costing some \$25,000 each, have been added to the school for the deaf and dumb at Morganton, and to the institution for the deaf, dumb, and blind at Raleigh. In addition, the main building of the latter is to be much improved this year. The colored department of this institution, which is really another important edifice in a different part of the city, has received large additions, including a well equipped industrial building.

The orphan asylum at Oxford, chiefly supported by the state, has been greatly improved by the addition of eight brick cottages, to accommodate twenty-five each, by private benevolence.

It is to be regretted that the state penitentiary was found to be in debt about \$200,000 when it was expected that the sales of farm products would have supported the institution, as the policy of the state is to place convicts upon farms, to make their own support at hard labor. United States prisoners are employed in making and laundering shirts in the central prison. But with the exception of those confined for capital

offenses within the walls, all others are worked upon four farms. This has no connection with the so-called lease system. The convicts are controlled wholly by state officers, a supervisor, with necessary deputies and guards, and a physician being attached to each farm. They make the usual crops and are very healthy, and have more comfort than the ordinary negro enjoys. But the effect of losses by freshets in the river lands, the low price of cotton, and other causes involved debts, which the general assembly provided for by state bonds, to be sold for the settlement of the debts. A new board of directors was elected by that body to take charge, but the supreme court has decided that appointment by legislative action was unconstitutional, and consequently the board appointed through executive authority will assume control again. It is to be regretted that the supreme court was divided on this question according to political predilection, and contrary opinions were filed, the majority agreeing with the executive. This decision leaves the subject without a finality, liable to be debated and adjudicated otherwise, with a court composed of members in political agreement with the legislative power.

We have made no little progress in the severance of the charities from partisan issues, and it is to be hoped that eventually the entire subject, in all its interests, will be considered wholly in its relation to the furtherance of humanity, the work of reformation, and the welfare

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of the state. It ought to be noted that the members of the board of charities, who have served for many years, differ politically from the executive, but that has in no way affected the harmony of their relations in the state service.

The friends of a state reform school were anxious for its establishment, but it was found to be necessary to postpone its consideration until after the election upon the proposed constitutional amendment restricting suffrage. But all the great religious bodies of the state favor it, and public sentiment is growing stronger in its behalf, and it may be considered as one thing that this state will do.

An additional \$100,000 was added to the annual school tax, and it is now about one million dollars, given to white and colored equally per capita, although the white taxpayers pay ninety-six and one-third, and the colored three and two-thirds per cent of all taxation. North Carolina also maintains free colored normal schools, and a colored agricultural and mechanics' college (at Greensboro).

Taken altogether, we are making steady progress, and not the least is in the constant elevation of the county homes and jails through the supervision of the board of public charities, represented in each county by a board of visitors of three gentlemen and two ladies, who inspect and report semi-annually to the state board.

C. B. DENSON.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

There has been but little change made in existing laws relative to

charities and correction. An amendment makes the assistance furnished by the state to the deaf and dumb, blind, and feeble-minded children, subject to the recommendation of the state board of charities and corrections. A joint resolution authorizes the governor and council to appoint a commission of three persons to take into consideration and investigate the subject of state support and control of the dependent insane and of the feeble-minded, and methods for moral improvement in the penal institutions of the state.

O. J. M. GILMAN.

COLORADO.

Two excellent measures which had for years been advocated by the state board of charities and correction, were passed by the legislature. One is the indeterminate sentence and parole law, mention of which was made in last month's issue. This provides for the fixing of a maximum and a minimum limit to terms of imprisonment in the penitentiary by the trial judge and the paroling of all convicts by the governor under such rules and regulations as he may adopt.

The other measure, which the state board has been advocating for six years, is a revised lunacy act, which closely follows the New York law. It provides for a board of three commissioners, appointed by the governor, who shall have full control over the insane hospital; they shall appoint a superintendent, who shall hold his office during their pleasure and who must be a physician of at

Lunacy
Commission.

least ten years' experience in the actual practice of his profession and with at least five years' actual experience in a hospital for the treatment of the insane. He must reside at the hospital and his compensation is fixed at \$3,000 per annum and maintenance. An assistant superintendent and subordinate assistants and employes are all to be selected by the superintendent subject to the approval of the commissioners. The law provides for resident physicians or internes, one of whom shall be a woman. This new law requires the court committing lunatics to furnish a certificate giving full data regarding the person so committed, including names of witnesses, jurors, and medical experts. The fixing of the residence of insane persons is also required, and when it is found that the person so committed is not a legal resident of the state it shall be the duty of the commission in lunacy, with the consent of the governor, to return such insane person, either before or after his admission to the insane hospital, to the country or state to which he belongs. The board of charities urged a non-salaried board of commissioners, but the legislators objected to this and gave the commissioners \$600 per year.

Another bill to pass the legislature, while not advocated directly by the state board of charities, received its sanction. This is a measure to compel the elementary education of children in school districts in the first and second class. By this law

all parents, guardians, and other persons having the care of children shall instruct them, or cause them to be instructed, in reading, writing, spelling, English grammar, geography, and arithmetic. All children between the ages of eight and fourteen shall be sent to a public, private, or parochial school for not less than twenty weeks, at least ten weeks of which shall be consecutive, and shall commence within the first four weeks of the school year, unless by a certificate of two reputable physicians it can be shown that the child's mental or bodily condition does not warrant its being sent to school. The consent of the county superintendent of schools is required before a child may be instructed at home. No child under fourteen years shall be employed during the school term unless the foregoing provisions shall have been complied with, and every employer shall require proof and keep a written record of the same, subject to the inspection of the truant officer, superintendent of schools, or any school director. The penalty for violating this provision shall be a fine of \$25 to \$100. All minors between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years who can not read and write the English language shall attend school at least one-half day of each day, or attend a public night school, or take regular private instruction from some person qualified, in the opinion of the county superintendent of schools, and he shall not be released from this obligation until he can read at sight and write legi-

bly simple. The law provides that parents and guardians of immoral-inclined children of the ages of eight and fourteen who habitually loiter on streets and sidewalks during school hours shall be liable for disorderly conduct and may be appointed by the police proper records throughout the year to give notice to attend school on the days of the week upon failure to attend in the court officer, and the parent or guardian shall be liable for a fine of \$10 to \$20 in the sum of the fine he will pay. When a child is disorderly in the school, the discretion of the school shall be to send the child home—the parent or the girls in the order of the day—pending by the time as the child attend school the child because of the or elsewhere legally entitled to the relief of the upon afford able the c

ly simple sentences in English. The law provides that habitual truants and incorrigible, vicious, and immoral-in-conduct children between the ages of eight and sixteen, or who habitually wander about the streets and public places during school hours, shall be deemed juvenile disorderly persons. School boards may appoint a truant officer vested with police powers. He shall keep proper record and make search throughout the district, and shall give notice to cause such children to attend some school within five days of the date of the notice, and upon failure complaint shall be made in the county court by the truant officer, and upon conviction, the parent or guardian shall be fined from \$10 to \$20, and shall give a bond in the sum of \$100, conditioned that he will put the child in school. When a child shall be found a juvenile disorderly person, a hearing may be had in the county court, and upon the discretion of the judge the child shall be committed to a children's home—the boys' industrial school, or the girls' industrial school. Such order of commitment may be suspended by the judge during such time as the child shall regularly attend school. Where it is found that the child is unable to attend school because required to work at home or elsewhere, or help support others legally entitled to its services, the truant officer shall report the case to the authorities charged with the relief of the poor, who shall thereupon afford such relief as shall enable the child to attend school, but

in such case the child shall not be required to attend more than three hours per day during school days.

Appropriations.

The state board made a persistent campaign in favor of proper appropriations for the state penal and charitable institutions, and succeeded in a satisfactory degree. Appropriations were made for permanent sites and buildings for the industrial school for girls and for the state home for dependent children.

A measure was passed permitting towns of the second and third classes to appropriate annually a sum of money to associated charities organizations.

Unsuccessful Measures.

Among the measures which were not given much consideration was a carefully prepared bill providing for truancy courts. The New York law regarding the placing out of children was introduced, but was not considered. A bill to create a state institution for the feeble-minded was not seriously discussed, because of the condition of the state finances. A temporary expedient was suggested in a bill authorizing county commissioners to place children in private institutions when declared feeble-minded by a county court, but in the rush of the final hours the senate refused to consider this bill in committee of the whole, although it had received unanimous commendation in the house.

Bills to restore capital punishment were introduced but not considered, and it may be safely asserted that capital punishment will never be re-

stored in Colorado. A bill relating to habitual criminals received some opposition in the senate, and was not pushed. The usual bills to abolish the state board of charities and corrections were introduced, but met an early death.

The subject of a central board of control for all state institutions was

advocated by the governor, but the local opposition of state institutions was so strong that the bill never passed the committee of the whole in the senate. It is probable that this measure will be strongly urged at the next meeting of the legislature.

A civil service bill met an untimely death.

C. L. STONAKER.

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